GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4863
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2001
EXCESS TOBACCO PRODUCTION IN KARNATAKA
KAMBALAPADU E. KRISHNAMURTHY

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether farmers of Karnataka produced 9 million kilo more tobacco than the allocation in 1999-2000 and 16 million kilo more in 2000-2001; and

(b) the action proposed by the Tobacco Board to purchase the entire excess produce?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) & (b) : The farmers of Karnataka produced 8.02 million kilograms of excess tobacco in the 1999-2000 season and 18.25 million kilograms in the 2000-01 season. Permission was granted by Government for the sale of this excess tobacco on the auction platforms of the Tobacco Board, subject to a penalty of 5% and an extra fee of Rs. 2 per kilogram. In addition, prosecution action is being initiated against growers who have produced tobacco in excess of the authorised quantity and unregistered growers who have produced tobacco unauthorisedly.